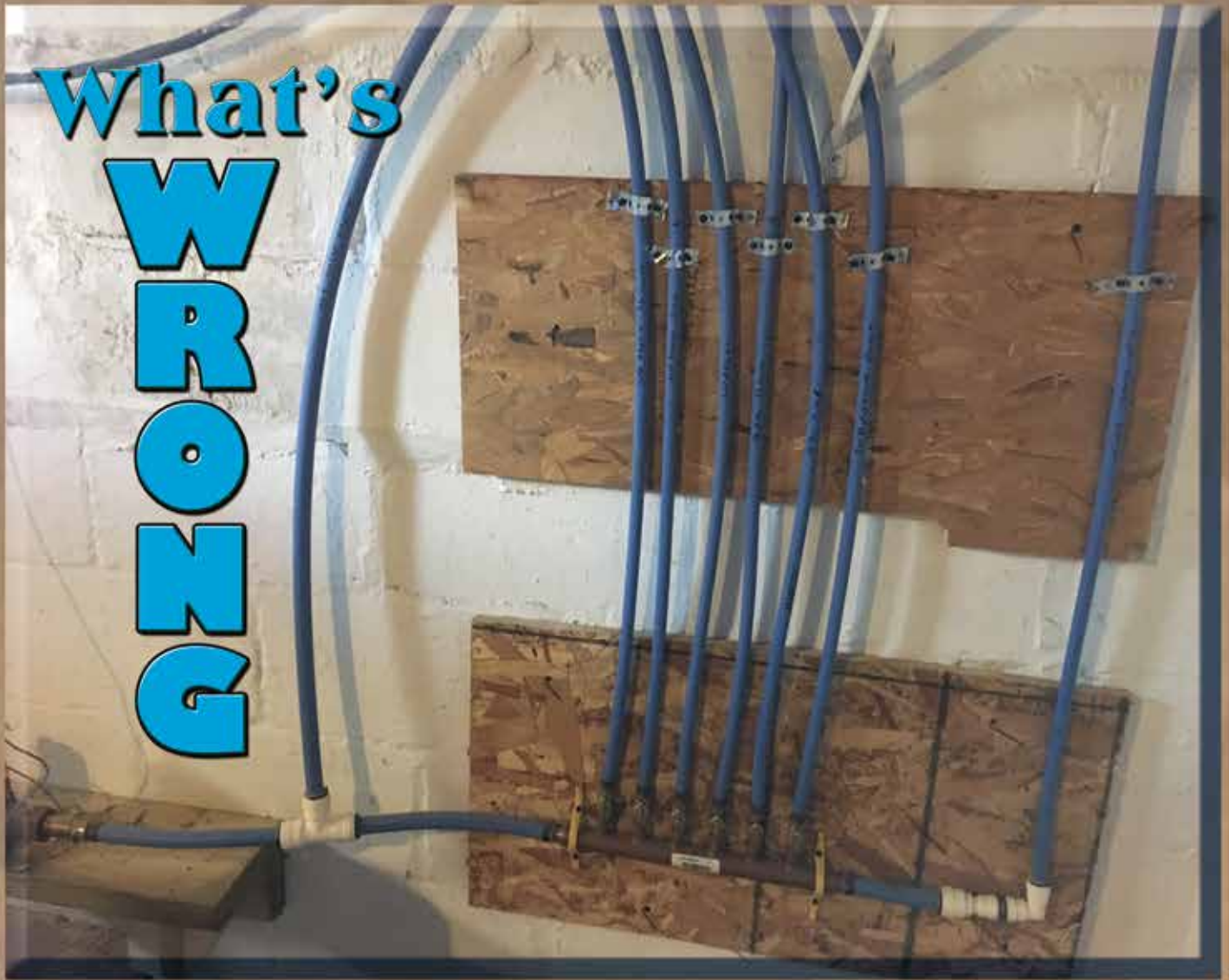


ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING-CONTRACTORS

Volume 104, No. 2

February 2018



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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Jeff Brown
Illinois PHCC President

Hello again,

February is here and spring will be here before you know it. I hope everyone survived the frigid cold we had. With the Super Bowl done and football season over, baseball season will soon be starting.

With February upon us, don't forget that the Illinois PHCC Expo & Education Day in Oakbrook Terrace is next month. If you haven't gotten your continuing education hours for this year, sign up now. There will be a class held before the Expo at Drury Lane Conference Center on March 23rd from 9:00 am – 1:00. The deadline to sign up for that class is March 1st. The Expo is a sell out again this year and I'm sure you will enjoy seeing all of the vendors and their new products. Don't forget about the annual After


Expo Reception for food, drinks, and prizes. Also following on Saturday morning will be the Illinois PHCC and Auxiliary Board meetings.

With that said, I hope everyone attending the Expo enjoys themselves and picks up some new knowledge and products. Again, don't forget to get your CEU class in, your license renewal will be here before you know it.

Until next month, everyone be safe.

Jeff Brown 

2018 CONVENTION CANCELLED

Due to various factors, including potential reduction of participation and sponsorships, we have unfortunately had to cancel the Illinois PHCC Convention which was scheduled to be held in June at the French Lick Resort. The Illinois PHCC will still be holding an annual meeting and installation of officers' event on June 8th, with a Board meeting the following morning. These events will be held in southwestern Illinois at a location to be determined. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, but we feel it is the best decision for the Association at this time. Please feel free to call or email the Illinois PHCC office with any questions. 



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RENEWAL TIME – DON'T DELAY!!

It is now the time of year for all Illinois licensed plumbers and apprentices to renew their licenses. Postcards containing your PIN to renew online are scheduled to be mailed in mid-February. Plumbers and apprentices will receive white postcards with black and red lettering. Please use the following email address for IDPH for all questions, online renewal RESETS, to obtain PIN #s, to update your information, etc. DPH.Plumbing@illinois.gov.


As soon as you receive notification from the IDPH, please renew immediately. Do not wait until April to renew!

If you do not have your continuing education credit completed for this year, see the forms in this issue of the magazine to sign up for a class. 

PHCC MEMBER MILESTONES

During 2018 the Illinois PHCC will be celebrating its 125th anniversary.

Over the course of the year we will be highlighting firms who may also be celebrating (or have celebrated) milestones. Is your company 50, 75, or 100+ years old? How many generations have been involved? Are there other milestones or interesting facts that you would like to share about your firm or the industry? What about other industry related organizations that you have been involved with?

Let us know and feel free to send pictures and articles that potentially may be used in an upcoming publication. 

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Heartland College
Normal, IL

FEBRUARY 26-28, 2018

UAC Unity Meeting
Orlando, FL

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 2, 2018

CCA Spring Meeting
Dallas, Texas

MARCH 6 – 8, 2018

QSC Power Meeting
Savannah, GA

MARCH 23, 2018

Illinois PHCC Expo & Educational Day
Drury Lane Conference Center
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

MARCH 24, 2018

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings
Hilton Suites
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

APRIL 6, 2018

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Rend Lake College Marketplace
Mount Vernon, IL

APRIL 20, 2018

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Heartland College
Normal, IL


JUNE 8, 2018

Illinois PHCC Installation Dinner
TBD

JUNE 9, 2018

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings
TBD

OCTOBER 9 – 12, 2018


PHCC National Convention
Albuquerque, NM 

DIOSH DAY 2018

The 27th Annual Downstate Illinois Occupational Safety & Health Day is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28th at the Peoria Civic Center. DIOSH Day is for employers, employees, and all others interested in safety and health. Experts in the field will present a program on the most current issues in safety and health today. Many governmental agencies will have booths in the exhibit area. This a great opportunity to get your workplace safety question answered in a neutral setting.

Attendees will have the opportunity to network with hundreds of safety professionals and learn about resources available to employers. In addition to government agencies, over 40 other exhibitors will demonstrate many useful and innovative products and services.

For more information or to register, call 1-877-346-7432 or visit www.DIOSHDay.com.

The Illinois PHCC is a co-sponsor of this annual event and also has registration materials available. 

EMPLOYERS MUST POST OSHA FORM

OSHA reminds employers that they must post a copy of OSHA's Form 300A, which summarizes job-related injuries and illnesses logged during 2017. Each year, between February 1 and April 30, the summary must be displayed in a common area where notices to employees are usually posted. Businesses with 10 or fewer employees and those in certain low-hazard industries are exempt from OSHA recordkeeping and posting requirements. Go to www.osha.gov for more information.



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Illinois PHCC Expo & Educational Day

Friday, March 23, 2018
Drury Lane Conference Center
100 Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. – Continuing Education Class
Noon – 5 P.M. EXPO Trade Show

Friday, March 23rd, will provide you with a great opportunity to view new products, talk to manufacturers, learn new technologies, network with other plumbers and contractors, and also have some fun. If you have not yet gotten your required **4 hours of continuing education credit for your 2018 license renewal**, now is the time. Multiple speakers will be presenting on a variety of industry topics. All of the day's activities are free of charge, with the exception of a \$35.00 fee for the 4 hour CEU class. **You must bring your most recent plumbing license with you to the class. Pre-registration is required for the CEU class.**

The **highlight of the day** will be the annual **Illinois PHCC trade show from 12:00-5:00 P.M.** Come see over 160 booths of the **latest products, tools, trucks and technologies.** Admittance to the **2018 Expo is free of charge.** After a busy day of education and visiting the Expo, relax and unwind at the **Illinois PHCC sponsored "After Expo" Reception.**

A block of **rooms** has been reserved at the Hilton Suites at a **special Expo rate** of \$134.00 single or \$141.00 double occupancy plus tax. Remember that all rooms are 2 room suites that include a full breakfast buffet: upon check-in please inform the front desk of how many people are staying in your room. Hotel reservations can be made by calling the **Hilton Suites at 1-630-941-0100.** Be sure to mention the Illinois PHCC to get the special rate.

Illinois PHCC
821 South Grand Ave., West
Springfield, IL 62704

www.ilphcc.com



Questions ??? Call (217)522-7219



*Illinois PHCC Educational Day
March 23, 2018
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM – CEU Class
Drury Lane Conference Center
100 Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181*

You MUST bring your most recent Plumbers License with you to the class. Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start time to complete registration.

**All registrations MUST be received before March 1, 2018.
NO WALK-INS will be accepted for the CEU class.**

Additional parking is available in the parking deck.

Name: _____ **License #:** _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email: _____

Mail registration form with complete address and \$35.00 fee to:

**Illinois PHCC
821 South Grand Ave., West
Springfield, IL 62704
or register online at www.ilphcc.com**

Make check payable to the Illinois PHCC

**Registrations will not be processed unless accompanied by the fee.
Cancellations will be charged a cancellation fee of \$15.00.**

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Questions ??? Call (217)522-7219

Remember the Expo runs from 12:00 to 5:00 P.M. and is FREE!



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ILLINOIS PHCC THRU THE YEARS

In 2018, the Illinois PHCC is celebrating 125 years of serving contractors and the plumbing-heating-cooling-piping industry. Throughout the year we will be running articles from past Illinois Master Plumber magazines, pictures, stories of company milestones, and other items we think you will enjoy. Here is this month's "history lesson".

Industry Issues:

Licensing; utility competition; need for public awareness of licensed plumbers and their professionalism; workforce development and labor issues; material costs; overhead; the need for education in the trade and of the public; consistency in inspections; material being sold "over the counter" to anyone - DIY market; codes and regulatory issues; better training for the workforce; how to reduce and enforce unlicensed work; the need to stop "bid peddling" by general contractors.

These are all current issues that our industry and the PHCC deal with.

What is interesting, is that these same issues are what brought a group of men together in 1883 to form the National Association of Master Plumbers – what is now PHCC National Association.

As plumbing work increased and the NAMP expanded, the Illinois Association of Master Plumbers was formed in 1893.

Our first state association office was in Aurora, was later moved to Chicago, and in the 70's moved to Springfield in the same building that we are in today. Our leadership acknowledged the need to be near the State Capital to deal with increasing legislative and regulatory issues.

There are not many records of the early years of the Illinois Association until the Illinois Master Plumber magazine was started in 1916. At that time the Association had over 1,000 members and that carried into the mid 1920's. Membership numbers fluctuated with the times – The Depression, Wars, and other economic factors. This is a trend seen in all trade associations and most other organizations.

Over the years, 14 Illinois contractors have served as National President, and 16 as National Secretary. As you can see, the Illinois PHCC has been and continues to be a driving force in the National Association. In fact, many of those National Association of Master Plumbers founding fathers in 1883 were from Chicago.

We currently have 6 local associations around the state. The first local association was in Chicago and actually began 135 years ago – 10 years before the state association. The second local association was in Peoria.


Some of the early accomplishments of the National Association of Master Plumbers set the stage for the way things are done today. Back in the 1880's, traps & pipe were made by hand out of sheet lead, bathtubs were made of wood and lined with copper, and water closets were all cased in wood and sawdust. In the early 1900's came fixtures and pipe made of vitrified clay. Seeing a need to standardize plumbing fixtures and materials, the NAMP created a Standardization Committee in 1907. This committee requested manufacturers for things like uniform threads on water closet connections, and standard IPT on all supply connections for ball and basin cocks. Over the next 50 years this Committee had a great influence on product design.

They also saw a great need for apprentice programs and laws in the late 1800's and early 1900's and created them.

A couple of other interesting items; the first Illinois Plumbing Inspectors Association was formed in Springfield in 1917, and in the 20's a statewide building code was proposed, but never materialized.

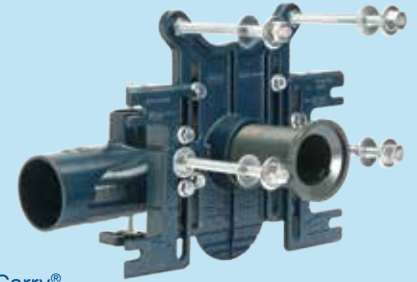
Down through the decades the Industry evolved and so did the Association. Early communications were by personal visit or letter. Later there were telegrams, telephones, and now almost all of our communication is electronic.

Today PHCC offers contractors webinars, teleconferences, codes online, marketing tools, networking forums, and instant answers and information.

We've come a long way in the past 125 years. 



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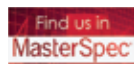
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Tuesday, April 24

The State House Inn
101 East Adams St., Springfield, IL

11:00 a.m.

IMSCA Quarterly Board Meeting

Noon

Presentation of Lobby Day Activities

- Guest Speaker - TBA
- Legislative Issues
- Lobby "How To's":

Office Procedures / Calling Members
from the Floor

1:00 p.m.

Lunch

2:00 p.m.

Lobby Legislators

IL State Capital Building

5:30 p.m.

Joint IMSCA/ICIC Reception

Sangamo Club - 227 East Adams

Register today!

We will discuss issues important to the Illinois construction industry.
Don't miss this unique opportunity to talk to YOUR legislators about YOUR business needs.



Please fill out the below information and return to IMSCA by mail: 519 South Grand Avenue W, Springfield, IL 62704 or email jnewbold@boldnewstrat.com

Deadline to Register is **Friday, April 13, 2018**

Name: _____


Company: _____ Phone/Email: _____

Association: _____

NEWS FROM PHCC NATIONAL

Have You Renewed Your Membership? Keep Good Things Happening In Your Business!

by Elicia Magruder, Senior VP of Member Services & Customer Care

A recent survey of PHCC members found that the majority are satisfied with their membership and believe that being a member of PHCC helps their business. A high number anticipate that their company's scope of work will expand and even more are optimistic about the future. Don't miss a single day of putting PHCC to work for you. If you haven't already sent your 2018 dues investment, send it today. Questions? Contact PHCC at membership@naphcc.org. 

UPDATED! Water Supply Calculator App

To give PHCC members a more adaptable, more accessible plumbing resource, PHCC has unveiled the second generation of PHCC's Water Supply Calculator App. Available for both Apple and Android devices, the new app gives you a single resource to determine water supply fixture units and pipe size calculations based on the three model plumbing codes. It also serves as an all-in-one membership engagement tool, allowing you to directly access PHCC information and resources on your portable devices.



State of the Union Analysis

by Mark Riso, Vice President of Legislative Affairs

When President Donald Trump addressed the nation on January 30th in the State of the Union, a few of the issues he touched on emphasized domestic policy, which includes tax cuts (tax reform), the economy, trade with other nations, regulatory reform, infrastructure spending, terrorism, workforce development and immigration: elements of which benefit PHCC members. His speech centered around a theme of "America First." But important to PHCC and what we didn't hear was an acknowledgment of what PHCC has emphasized with the White House since the spring of last year: Infrastructure investment is as much about upgrading components below ground as it is about above ground (highways, road, and bridges). This is significant in order to protect the health and safety of the nation and hence, special attention must be paid to infrastructure below ground. Congress will soon consider appropriation legislation to fund large infrastructure projects and PHCC National will continue to engage Congress and the Administration about this national need.



IRS WARNS EMPLOYERS TO BEWARE OF FORM W-2 SCAN; TAX SEASON COULD BRING NEW SURGE IN PHISHING SCHEME

The Internal Revenue Service, state tax agencies and the tax industry is urging all employers to educate their payroll personnel about a Form W-2 phishing scam that made victims of hundreds of organizations and thousands of employees last year.

The Form W-2 scam has emerged as one of the most dangerous phishing emails in the tax community. During the last two tax seasons, cybercriminals tricked payroll personnel or people with access to payroll information into disclosing sensitive information for entire workforces. The scam affected all types of employers, from small and large businesses to public schools and universities, hospitals, tribal governments and charities.

Reports to phishing@irs.gov from victims and non-victims about this scam jumped to approximately 900 in 2017, compared to slightly over 100 in 2016. Last year, more than 200 employers were victimized, which translated into hundreds of thousands of employees who had their identities compromised.

By alerting employers now, the IRS and its partners in the Security Summit effort hope to limit the success of this scam in 2018. The IRS last year also created a new process by which employers should report these scams. There are steps the IRS can take to protect employees, but only if the agency is notified immediately by employers about the theft.

Here's how the scam works: Cybercriminals do their homework, identifying chief operating officers, school executives or others in positions of authority. Using a technique known as business email compromise (BEC) or business email spoofing

(BES), fraudsters posing as executives send emails to payroll personnel requesting copies of Forms W-2 for all employees.

The Form W-2 contains the employee's name, address, Social Security number, income and withholdings. Criminals use that information to file fraudulent tax returns, or they post it for sale on the Dark Net.

The initial email may be a friendly, "hi, are you working today" exchange before the fraudster asks for all Form W-2 information. In several reported cases, after the fraudsters acquired the workforce information, they immediately followed that up with a request for a wire transfer.

In addition to educating payroll or finance personnel, the IRS and Security Summit partners also urge employers to consider creating a policy to limit the number of employees who have authority to handle Form W-2 requests and that they require additional verification procedures to validate the actual request before emailing sensitive data such as employee Form W-2s.

If the business or organization victimized by these attacks notifies the IRS, the IRS can take steps to help prevent employees from being victims of tax-related identity theft. However, because of the nature of these scams, some businesses and organizations did not realize for days, weeks or months that they had been scammed.

The IRS established a special email notification address specifically for employers to report Form W-2 data thefts. Here's how Form W-2 scam

IRS WARNS EMPLOYERS TO BEWARE OF FORM W-2 SCAN CONTINUED

victims can notify the

- IRS:Email dataloss@irs.gov to notify the IRS of a Form W-2 data loss and provide contact information, as listed below.
- In the subject line, type “W2 Data Loss” so that the email can be routed properly. Do not attach any employee personally identifiable information data.
- Include the following:
 - Business name
 - Business employer identification number (EIN) associated with the data loss
 - Contact name
 - Contact phone number
 - Summary of how the data loss occurred
 - Volume of employees impacted

Businesses and organizations that fall victim to the scam and/or organizations that only receive a suspect email but do not fall victim to the scam should send the full email headers to phishing@irs.gov and use “W2 Scam” in the subject line.

Employers can learn more at Form W-2/SSN Data Theft: Information for Businesses and Payroll Service Providers.

Employers should be aware that cybercriminals’ scams constantly evolve. Finance and payroll personnel should be alert to any unusual requests for employee data.



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_____ of code book(s) X \$60.95

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail form with payment to:

**Illinois PHCC
821 South Grand Avenue, West
Springfield, IL 62704**

Make checks payable to the Illinois PHCC.

There will be a \$40.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

Questions? Contact the Illinois PHCC at bev@ilphcc.com or shelly@ilphcc.com

(217) 522-7219

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

IS THERE A VIOLATION OF THE ILLINOIS PLUMBING CODE ON THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO?

Let us know your thoughts by emailing the Illinois PHCC at bev@ilphcc.com or faxing 217-522-4315. All correct answers will be put in a drawing for an Illinois PHCC logo item.



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PCA MIDWEST “CHICAGO PLUMBING INDUSTRY” HALL OF FAME INDUCTS 2018 HONOREES

The Plumbing Contractors Association (PCA) Midwest honored three outstanding individuals who have shown a great deal of personal commitment, ingenuity and passion to improve the plumbing industry during its PCA Winter Social on January 26, 2018 at the Brookfield Zoo’s Seven Seas Underwater Dolphin Viewing Area.

The 2018 inductees are Charles S. Allen, Executive Chairman of Sloan Valve Company; John Bojan, Retired Plumbers Local 130 UA Pension Fund Administrator; and James P. Smith, Past President of C.J. Erickson Plumbing Company.

The PCA Midwest created the Chicago Area Plumbing Industry Hall of Fame in 2002. Since its inception, over thirty distinguished men and women representing PCA plumbing contractors, United Association (UA) of Journeyman Plumbers Local 130, and the manufacturer/supplier segment of the industry have been bestowed with this tribute.

This year’s Hall of Fame Committee, who were tasked with the selection process, included Chairman Michael J. Kerrigan (K.J. Kerrigan Plumbing Co.); John Baethke (John Baethke & Son Plumbing, Inc.); Mark Brickey (Metropolitan Industries); Michelle Freihage (T&J Plumbing,

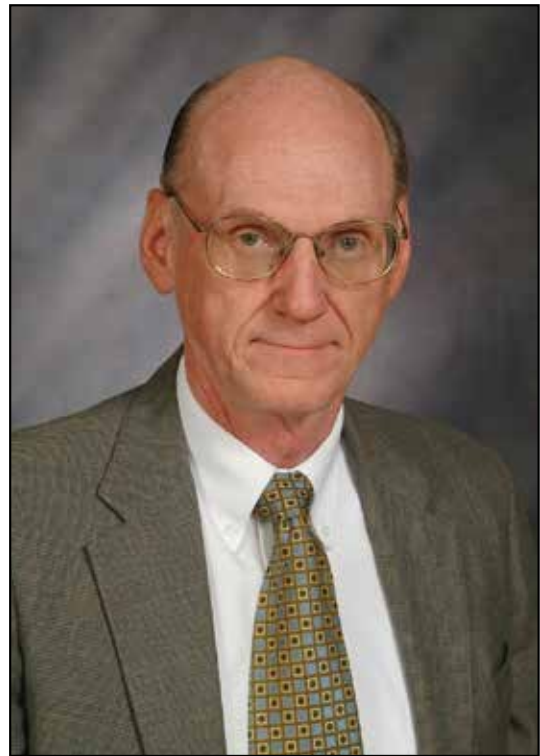


Inc.); Rob Johnson (M. Cooper WinSupply); Patrick McCarthy (Plumbers Local 130 UA); and S.J. Peters (PCA Midwest and Plumbing Council Midwest).



Chuck Allen

PCA Midwest Hall of Fame Honoree Charles S. Allen (“Chuck”) is the third generation leader of (locally founded and still family operated), Sloan Valve Company. Chuck has enjoyed this wonderful career of 45 years, guiding this worldwide manufacturer of water and efficient plumbing solutions through some of the most explosive growth and periods of innovation in its 112 year history. Far from being retired, Chuck remains the “Executive Chairman” of the Sloan Valve Company. He holds numerous patents and is still very involved in engineering new products and new groundbreaking technologies that save water and help protect the health of the nation.



John Bojan

PCA Midwest Hall of Fame Honoree John Bojan is best known in our industry for his work as the Plumbers Local 130 UA Pension Fund Administrator from 1988 until his retirement in 2008. Serving in the Air Force after high school, he worked as an engineer and eventually acquired his plumbing license with the State of Illinois. In 2018, he celebrated his 50th Anniversary as a member of UA Plumbers Local 130. Also noteworthy, John became a proud member of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) in 1963. Over the years, he earned numerous ASSE awards and accolades including the Edward J. Zimmer Award (1987); the Crystal Drop Award (1990); and the Lifetime status Award (2007). He also acquired the coveted “Fellowship” status with the National ASSE and he served as a past president of the ASSE Illinois Chapter.



Jim Smith

PCA Midwest Hall of Fame Honoree James P. Smith (Jim) has left an indelible mark on our Association, our union Trust Funds and the entire plumbing industry. Jim started his plumbing apprenticeship in 1974. He became a UA Plumbers Local 130 Journeyman in 1978 and one year later was promoted to a foreman at C.J. Erickson Plumbing Company. After working as an estimator/superintendent in the 1980s, he moved up the ranks to serve as the company’s Vice President and then later as President. In 1997, Jim joined the PCA Midwest board of directors and went through all of the chairs leading up to his role as Vice President. He was appointed as a UA Plumbers Local 130 Pension Trustee in 2007 and two years later voted to serve as the Co-Chair of the Fund. In addition, he was appointed as a Welfare Trustee in 2011 and was instrumental in the merger transitions of three locals

into Local 130. While officially retired from C.J. Erickson Plumbing Company, he remains active in the industry as a new plumbing inspector for the Village of Alsip.

The PCA Midwest is proud to recognize all of the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees and is grateful for their outstanding service and contributions to the plumbing industry as a whole.

As one of the oldest trade associations in the United States (founded in 1882), The PCA Midwest, affiliated with the national and state Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Association (PHCC), Union Affiliated Contractors (UAC) of the PHCC, and the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) represents over 300 union signatory (UA Plumbers Local 130) plumbing contractor firms operating in 17 counties in Northern Illinois in labor relations and legislation.

In addition, the Plumbing Council Midwest (established in 1968) is the PCA Midwest’s industry’s Fund. The Council, on behalf of all its affiliated contractors covered by the PCA Midwest – negotiated collective bargaining agreement, provides advocacy, legislative & political action, public information, referrals, marketing initiatives and more aimed at promoting, protecting and advancing our contractors in the plumbing trade. The Council together with the PCA Midwest also promotes and encourages the highest standards and ethical practices in providing quality plumbing and piping installation and service and encourages positive relations and sophisticated business practices among plumbing contractors.

For more information about the PCA Midwest, visit www.plumbingcouncil.org/pca. S.J. Peters serves as the PCA and Plumbing Council Executive Director and can be reached at 312-563-9526, by cell phone at 630-280-9307, or by email at sj@plumbingcouncil.org



CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS ADD 36,000 JOBS IN JANUARY AND 226,000 OVER THE YEAR; HOURLY EARNINGS RISE 2.9 PERCENT AS SECTOR STRIVES TO DRAW IN NEW WORKERS

Construction employment increased by 36,000 jobs in January to the highest level since August 2008, according to an analysis of new government data by the Associated General Contractors of America. Association officials said a possible new measure being discussed in Washington that would invest an additional \$1.5 trillion in repairing and improving infrastructure would both help the sector continue to add jobs and attract new workers.

“The construction industry has consistently added workers at nearly double the rate of the overall economy,” said Ken Simonson, the association’s chief economist. “The outlook remains positive for

further growth in the industry. But finding workers to complete all projects will be a challenge with unemployment so low overall and in construction.”

Construction employment totaled 7,099,000 in January, a gain of 36,000 for the month and 226,000, or 3.3 percent, over 12 months. The economist pointed out that the year-over-year growth rate in industry jobs was more than double the 1.5 percent rise in total nonfarm payroll employment.

Residential construction—comprising residential building and specialty trade contractors—added 19,000 jobs in January and 88,400 jobs, or 3.3 percent, over the past 12 months. Nonresidential construction



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(building, specialty trades, and heavy and civil engineering construction) employment increased by 16,4000 jobs in January and 137,200 positions, or 3.3 percent, over 12 months.

The number of unemployed jobseekers with recent construction experience fell to 707,000 in January, down from 859,000 in January 2017, while the unemployment rate in construction dropped to 7.3 percent last month from 9.4 percent a year earlier. The number and rate were the lowest for January since the series began in 2000. Unemployment data by industry are not seasonally adjusted, and winter figures for construction are normally higher than they are for total nonfarm employment, but these declines show how difficult it has become for the industry to find experienced workers, Simonson said.

Average hourly earnings in the industry climbed to 429.33, a rise of 2.9 percent from a year earlier. The economist noted that construction pays nearly 10 percent more per hour than the average nonfarm private-sector job in the United States.

Construction officials said that a new presidential push to boost infrastructure investments by \$1.5 trillion over the next ten years would give a needed boost to infrastructure contractors who, according to construction spending figures released yesterday, have seen lagging demand compared to other market segments. Moreover, significant new and long-term investment in infrastructure would help encourage more people to consider high-paying careers in construction.

“Bringing our aging infrastructure back to a state of good repair will support short-term economic growth while making our economy more efficient and competitive over the long-

term,” said Stephen E. Sandherr, the associations’ chief executive officer. “These new investments will also send a clear signal to new workers to consider careers in construction an the middle-class life those jobs support.



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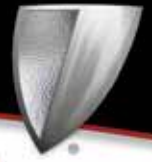
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The Unhappy Reality of Slip and Fall Accidents

Although it varies by industry, claims made by businesses for slip and fall accidents account for more than 20 percent of general liability claims each year, and have an average payout of more than \$20,000. Every business has the potential to experience these incidents, but the retail and commercial industries are often prime targets for slips and falls, most likely due in part to their frequent interaction with the public. Likewise, certain times of the year also seem more prone to slip and fall incidents, such as colder months and the autumn and winter holidays. The causes definitely vary, but three particular circumstances commonly increase a business's risk.

One area of increased risk is simply more traffic. Regardless of the reason, more traffic naturally points to a greater chance for mishaps. Add other distractions such as point of sale displays, store demonstrations, or any other typical "shopping" distraction, and the risk increases. To reduce this risk, you would need to reduce foot traffic, and what business owner wants to do that? A more acceptable alternative is to emphasize the importance of regular facility inspections, on-going housekeeping, and sound maintenance practices.

Next is seasonal weather. Depending on your store's location, rain and winter's sleet, ice, and snow can significantly impact slip and fall frequency. Couple this with customers who may not be wearing appropriate footwear for the conditions, and your risk increases.

Businesses should implement policies to keep walkways, driveways, and customer parking areas clear of ice and snow accumulation.

- Pay special attention to drainage runoff or discharge from buildings, canopies, and landscaping.
- Many incidents occur after a day of snow/ice melt and the refreeze in the evening or morning hours, which are also often the busiest times of day.
- And don't forget indoor slips and falls. Customers inevitably track in whatever type of precipitation is outdoors, creating wet and slippery floors, especially around entrances.

Keeping employees aware of and on the lookout for these increased weather-related risks is critical to slip and fall prevention—inside and out.

And last, but certainly not least, is fraud. The winter holidays in particular are prime time for fraudsters. The reasons are as varied as the people involved, but often they stem from an increased need for money, or even simply taking advantage when larger crowds or weather conditions present an opportunity. Fraud can be hard to detect and prove, but being aware of fraud indicators, keeping video surveillance footage, and documenting your housekeeping details (e.g., When was ice melt laid? When was the floor mopped?) can be valuable for helping to combat fraud.

Slip and fall incidents and their root causes can be obvious (an icy sidewalk), or not so obvious (a "staged" fall for fraudulent purposes). In other words, business owners need to be ready for all conditions. Look at your business through the eyes of a customer, paying special attention to the three common causes discussed here. They show what your business could be exposed to, and the preventable situations you can remedy to help you avoid an insurance claim. For more information on slip and fall prevention, contact your local Federated marketing representative.

This article is intended to provide general information and recommendations regarding risk prevention only and should not be considered legal advice. Following these guidelines does not guarantee reduced losses or elimination of any risks. This information may be subject to regulations and restrictions in your state. Qualified counsel should be sought regarding questions specific to your circumstances and applicable state or federal laws. © 2017 Federated Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.

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2017-2018 Continuing Education for Illinois Licensed Plumbers

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 22, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 23, 2017 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm	America’s Best Value Inn, Vandalia, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **October 13, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Northfield Inn and Suites, Springfield, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **November 3, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake College Marketplace, Mt. Vernon, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **January 12, 2018 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **February 23, 2018 – 1:00 pm-5:00pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **March 23, 2018 - 9:00 am -1:00pm	Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	\$35.00

No Walkins – No Exceptions. All Registrations for the March 23 class must be received before March 1, 2018

<input type="checkbox"/> **April 6, 2018 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake College Marketplace, Mt. Vernon, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **April 20, 2018 - 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$75.00

****State hours for Certified Plumbing Inspectors**

Please check the session you will be attending.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Fee must accompany application.

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4 Credit Hours

To register, complete this form by checking the location you will attend,
provide your complete address, make checks payable to Illinois PHCC and mail to
Illinois PHCC ♦ 821 South Grand Avenue, West ♦ Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone (217) 522-7219

Name: _____ License # **058-** _____

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IMPORTANT:

You MUST bring your Plumbers License with you to the program. Please arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to complete the registration process. Directions are available on our website at www.ilphcc.com
Cancellation Policy: IL PHCC reserves the right to cancel a course due to insufficient enrollment. If we cancel a course, you will be notified and your pre-registration will be refunded to you or you may transfer to another location. There is no refund for any registration not cancelled (10) working days prior to the class. Cancellations made prior to (10) working days will be charged a \$15.00 cancellation fee. There will be a \$50.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Illinois PHCC Association will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities at its meetings. Please call 217-522-7219 with any special requests.



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BACKFLOW TRAINING

2017/2018 COURSE SCHEDULE*

2017

Thursday October 19, 2017
Tuesday November 14, 2017
Thursday December 14, 2017

2018

Tuesday January 9, 2018
Thursday January 25, 2018
Tuesday February 6, 2018
Thursday February 22, 2018
Tuesday March 6, 2018
Thursday March 15, 2018
Tuesday March 20, 2018
Thursday March 29, 2018
Tuesday April 3, 2018
Thursday April 12, 2018
Tuesday April 17, 2018
Thursday April 26, 2018

TIME: 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

COST: \$85, dinner included.

LOCATION:

Test Gauge, Inc.
2587 Millennium Dr., Unit K2
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** Class schedule subject to change.
Please check our website for available classes.*



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FIRE SPRINKLER RETROFIT

- Measurements needed of existing install.
- Hydraulic calculations.
- The permit process.
- Backflow preventer options/installation accessories available to make install more economical.

BACKFLOW REPAIR

- Backflow plumbing code.
- Repair & maintenance of backflow assemblies.



Register online @ testgauge.net/backflowtraining or scan the QR Code to complete your online registration.

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